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Message Text

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42
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 /074 W
---------- 128707
P R 231735Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 103
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 0389

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ES, HO
SUBJECT: HONDURAN/EL SALVADOR RELATIONS

REF: SAN SALVADOR 0348
1. AT A LUNCHEON CONVERSATIONWITH PRESIDENT MOLINA AND HIS KEY MILITARY OFFICIALS ON JANUARY 22, MOLINA TOLD ME THAT THE CURRENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN IN EL SALVADOR WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH HIS EFFORTS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH HONDURAS. HE BELIEVES THAT THIS ISSUE CAN MOST CERTAINLY BE RESOLVED THIS YEAR. HE MENTIONED THAT HONDURAN CHIEF OF STATE MELGAR HAD TOLD HIM AT THEIR LAST MEETING THAT HIS THEN FONMIN GALVEZ WAS INFLEXIBLE AND WOULD HAVE TO BE REMOVED. NOW THAT GALVEZ HAS BEEN REPLACED BY PERDOMO, HE PRESUMES THAT THE LATTER IS MORE FAVORABLY INCLINED TOWARD A SOLUTION. (I CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS MY IMPRESSION, ALSO.)
2. DEFENSE MINISTER ROMERO TOLD ME THAT HE IS STILL MAKING EFFORTS AT THE BI-LATERAL MILITARY LEVEL TO REGULARIZE THE BORDER MEETINGS BETWEEN HIGH-LEVEL SALVADORAN AND HONDURAN MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES. CHIEF OF STAFF COL. RODRIGUEZ SAID HE WAS MEETING WITH HIS HONDURAN COUNTERPART ON JAN 23 ON THE HONDURAN SIDE OF THE BORDE TO RESUME
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DISCUSSIONS. HE MENTIONED A COUPLE OF RECENT INCIDENTS OF

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CATTLE RUSLING AND OTHER PROBLEMS ALONG THE COMMON BORDER.
BOTH ROMERO AND RODRIGUEZ HOPED TO NEGOTIATE A STRICT
OBSERVANCE OF THE SAN JOSE AGREEMENT WHICH STIPULATED A
"NO MANJS LAND"OF 3 KILOMETERS ON EACH SIDE AND LIMITED THE
NUMBERS AND TYPES OF PATROLS. THEY MAINTAINED THAT THE
HONDURAN MILITARY WAS GROSSLY VIOLATING THIS AGREEMENT.
CAMPBELL

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